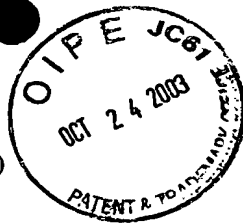


DOCKET NO: 217474US0



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :

KENJI YAMAMOTO, ET AL. :

EXAMINER: TURNER, A.

SERIAL NO: 10/025,653 :

FILED: DECEMBER 26, 2001 :

GROUP ART UNIT: 1775

FOR: HARD FILM FOR CUTTING
TOOLS, CUTTING TOOL COATED WITH
HARD FILM, PROCESS FOR FORMING
HARD FILM, AND TARGET USED TO
FORM HARD FILM

RECEIVED
OCT 29 2003
TC 1700

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated June 24, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.